

**Truths Learned from the Apostle Paul's
Prayer for the Thessalonians
1 Thessalonians 3:11-13**

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A. What do we learn of our God?

1. God's paternal relationship with His children – 1 Thess. 1:2-3; 3:11
2. God's sovereignty over His children - 1 Thess. 3:11
3. God's activity in His children - 1 Thess. 3:12-13, Col. 1:9-12

Today

B. What do we learn are God's Chief Purposes for His Children?

1. Increasing love for one another - 1 Thess. 3:12
 - This love is present in them: 1 Thess. 1:3
 - This love is active from them: 1 Thess. 4:9-10
 - This love is never to stagnate or decrease: 1 Thess. 4:10
2. Established holiness before a watching world
1 Thess. 3:13, Rom. 14:10, Heb. 12:14

What Holiness Is Not

- It is not outward conformity to rules
- It is not moral conduct different from the world
- It is not religious duty to know commands
- Warfare daily between the Spirit and flesh for who rules the heart

What Holiness Is

- A setting apart of life by God for God
- A willful dedication/consecration of all we are to all God is
- A progressive conformity to the character of the Holy Lord Jesus
- A daily warfare between the Spirit & flesh for who rules the heart

C. What do we learn from Paul's praying example in relationship with God?

1. Submission to God's sovereignty
1 Thess. 3:10-11, Luke 22:41-42
2. Dependency on God's works of grace
1 Thess. 3:12-13, 1 Cor. 3:5-7
3. Teachability as God's servant
1 Thess. 3:12, Phil. 3:10-15